

Robert Kennedy Article on Cuban Crisis Brings \$1 Million

NEW YORK (AP) — A 25,000-word article about the Cuban missile crisis, written by the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has been sold to McCall's magazine for \$1 million plus reprint and broadcast rights.

Norman Cousins, editor in chief of McCall's, announced the sale at a news conference yesterday. He said the cash price for the manuscript — \$40 a word — was the largest ever paid for such material.

Cousins said the magazine containing the article would appear on newsstands Oct. 22, the sixth anniversary of the U.S.-Soviet confrontation over Cuba. He said the issue would have a normal press run of 8.5 million copies.

Theodore C. Sorensen, an aide to both Sen. Kennedy and his brother, the late President John F. Kennedy, said Robert Kennedy, then attorney general, had kept detailed notes on the crisis, which ended when the Russians dismantled their Cuban missile sites and took the missiles back to the Soviet Union.

Sorensen said Kennedy began writing the article at the request of the New York Times magazine in April 1967, but later decided not to submit it for publication because it was too long and because some persons might feel he was using it in a bid for the presidency.

The article was found in the assassinated senator's personal effects and was sold to McCall's after bids were taken from various publishers, Sorensen said.

Henry E. Bowes, president of McCall's Corp., said two other key figures in the crisis — former Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara and former British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan — are contributing introductions to the manuscript.

The purchase agreement, concluded in Washington yesterday morning, gives McCall's all rights to the manuscript, including

book publication, serialization, film, television and recordings.

The estate retains the right to approve advertising copy, excerpts for serialization, photographs and other publishing details. Bowes said "agreed-upon arbitration procedures will come into play" in the event of a disagreement between the publisher and the estate.

Sorensen refused to disclose the contents of the article in

detail, but said the manuscript contained new information about the "thinking and feeling at the time" of both John and Robert Kennedy, as well as correspondence between the late President and then Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev.

Sorensen, who was special counsel to John Kennedy at the time of the Cuban crisis, included his own account of the confrontation in a book several years ago.

He said it also contained previously unpublished estimates and reports from the Central Intelligence Agency, and an account of deliberations by the National Security Council.

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